

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN CAROLYN SQUIRES**, on March 21, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Carolyn Squires, Chairman (D)
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)
Sen. Vicki Cocchiarella (D)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)
Sen. Larry Jent (D)
Sen. Rick Laible (R)
Sen. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
Sen. Jim Shockley (R)
Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Dave Bohyer, Legislative Branch
Lois O'Connor, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted:	HJ 4, 3/14/2007; HJ 7, 3/14/2007; HB 433, 3/14/2007; HB 532, 3/14/2007; HB 803, 3/14/2007; HJ 41, 3/14/2007; HB 487, 3/14/2007
Executive Action:	HJ-4, HJ 7, HB 532, HB 487, HB 803

00:01:03

HEARING ON HJ 4

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:18 **REP. JILL COHENOUR (D)**, HD 78, opened the hearing on **HJ 4**, Urge opposition to relaxation of mail delivery standards.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:41 Janet Kosnik, President, American Postal Workers Union (MPWU)

00:07:53 Rep. John Ward, HD 84

00:08:10 Rep. Hal Jacobson, HD 82

00:08:22 Sen. Joe Tropila, SD 13

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:11 Rep. Cohenour

HEARING ON HJ 7

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:10:02 **REP. JOHN WARD (R)**, HD 84, opened the hearing on **HJ 7**, Urge determination and implementation of telecommuting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:11:57 Becky Buska, Court Administrator's Office, Judicial Branch

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:13:35 Randy Morris, Montana Department of Administration

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:14:09 Rep. Ward

HEARING ON HB 433

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:15:55 **REP. BRADY WISEMAN (D), HD 65**, opened the hearing on **HB 433**, Full disclosure of government funds spent for federal lobbying.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:17:16 Linda Gryczan, League of Women Voters

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:18:03 Sen. Steve Gallus to Rep. Wiseman

00:19:36 Sen. Jim Shockley to Rep. Wiseman

00:20:03 Sen. Jeff Essmann to Rep. Wiseman

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:23 Rep. Wiseman

HEARING ON HB 532

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:21:49 **REP. HAL JACOBSON (D), HD 82**, opened the hearing on **HB 532**, Clarify payments for state national guard training.

EXHIBIT(sts60a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:25:13 Adjutant General Randy Mosley, Montana Department of
Military Affairs (MVAD)

00:28:50 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Associations
(MTNGA)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:30:33 Rep. Jacobson

HEARING ON HB 803

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:31:46 **REP. DENNIS HIMMELBERGER (R), HD 47**, opened the hearing
on **HB 803**, Board of veterans' affairs education program
on depleted uranium.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:33:04 Rep. Brady Wiseman, HD 85

Opponents' Testimony:

00:36:42 John Smart, Helena Photographer

EXHIBIT(sts60a02)

Informational Testimony:

00:45:37 Joe Foster, Administrator, Montana Veterans Affairs
Division (MVAD)

00:46:56 Rep. Kevin Furey, HD 91

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:47:26 Sen. Joe Balyeat to Rep. Wiseman

00:49:09 Sen. Essmann to Rep. Wiseman

00:50:01 Sen. Rick Laible to Rep. Furey

00:51:57 Sen. Laible to Adjutant General Mosley, MVAD

00:53:42 Sen. Carolyn Squires to Mr. Foster, MVAD

00:59:01 Sen. Balyeat to Mr. Smart

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:51 Rep. Himmelberger

HEARING ON HJ 41

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:03:37 **REP. KEVIN FUREY (D)**, HD 91, opened the hearing on **HJ 41**, Sympathy for Montanan's lost lives in war on terror.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:39 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, Legislative Liaison, Montana American Legion

01:06:08 Roger Hagan, Montana National Guard Associations (MTNGA)

01:06:54 Sen. Tropila

01:07:17 Sen. Squires on behalf of Dan Antonietti, Veterans of Foreign Wars

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:07:59 Sen. Cocchiarella to Rep. Furey

01:09:59 Sen. Shockley to Rep. Furey

01:10:44 Sen. Gallus to Rep. Furey

01:11:53 Sen. Jesse Laslovich to Rep. Furey

01:13:26 Sen. Shockley to Rep. Furey

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:16 Rep. Furey

HEARING ON HB 487

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:15:04 **REP. CYNTHIA HINER (D), HD 85**, opened the hearing on **HB 487**, Revise threshold for local government audit.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:17:31 Bob Drake, Tri-Lakes Volunteer Fire Department

01:21:27 Jim Dusenberry, Montana Fire District Association

01:23:25 Jerry Shepherd, Fire Chief, East Valley Volunteer Fire Department

01:24:55 Jules Waber, Powell County Superintendent of Schools

01:27:41 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

01:28:51 Holly Franz, Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPAs)

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:30:02 Neil Christofferson, Montana Department of Administration (DOA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:31:31 Sen. Balyeat to Rep. Hiner

01:32:03 Sen. Balyeat to Mr. Drake, Tri-Lakes Fire Department

01:33:54 Sen. Balyeat to Mr. Christofferson, DOA

01:34:24 Sen. Dave Lewis to Mr. Christofferson, DOA

01:38:46 Sen. Essmann to Ms. Franz, MCCPAs

01:40:50 Sen. Essmann to Mr. Christofferson, DOA

EXHIBIT (sts60a03)

01:41:55 Sen. Tropila

01:42:37 Sen. Shockley to Mr. Christofferson, DOA

01:43:36 Sen. Shockley to Dave Bohyer, Director of Research,
Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:44:13 Sen. Shockley to Rep. Hiner

01:44:57 Sen. Balyeat to Sen. Shockley

01:45:19 Sen. Lewis to Mr. Waber, Powell County Superintendent
of Schools

Closing by Sponsor:

01:48:10 Rep. Hiner

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 4

01:49:35 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. SHOCKLEY moved that HJ 4 BE
CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
SEN. TROPILA will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 7

01:50:13 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. SHOCKLEY moved that HJ 7 BE
CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.
SEN. TROPILA will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 532

01:53:20 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. LEWIS moved that HB 532 BE CONCURRED
IN. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. SEN.
TROPILA will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 487

01:54:19 **Motion:** SEN. ESSMANN moved that HB 487 BE CONCURRED IN.

01:54:41 **Motion:** SEN. ESSMANN moved to amend HB 487 with a CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT

Discussion:

01:54:54 Mr. Bohyer, LSD

01:55:06 Sen. Balyeat

01:56:41 Sen. Laible to Mr. Bohyer, LSD

01:57:00 Sen. Cocchiarella to Sen. Balyeat

01:58:13 Mr. Bohyer, LSD

01:58:59 Sen. Gallus

01:59:54 **SEN. ESSMANN withdrew the CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT and BE CONCURRED IN motion.**

Discussion:

02:00:10 Sen. Balyeat

02:01:26 Sen. Lewis to Mr. Bohyer, LSD. **No further action was taken on HB 487.**

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 803

02:02:05 **Motion:** SEN. TROPILA moved that HB 803 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion:

02:02:37 Sen. Laible

02:03:00 **Vote:** Motion that HB 803 BE CONCURRED IN carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:15 P.M.

SEN. CAROLYN SQUIRES, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

CS/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([sts60aad.pdf](#))